THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" If there is any delay, this Government is not responsible for it. We are reconstituting the existing old panchayats and after that, the formation of new panchayats will be taken up."

SRI V. K. RAMASAMI MUDALIAR :—" Inasmuch as the constitution of these new panchayats has to be postponed, will the Government consider the desirability of retrenching the staff as many Deputy Panchayat Officers and District Panchayat Officers have been recently appointed? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Only a few people were appointed to conduct the elections."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Has there not been State-wide opposition to the method of voting adopted in the recent Panchayat elections and what were the thoughts given to those representations? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" There are some representations that the system of secret ballot should be introduced. But I think the present system of open elections for Class II Panchayats is cheap."

SRI K. RAMIAH CHOUDARI :—" ఇప్పుడు జరిగేటటువంటి పంచాయతీ ఎలెక్షన్సులో, పై ఆఫీసర్లు చాలామంది తిరస్కరించారని వార్తలు వచ్చినవా ? " దీన్ని గురించి ప్రభుత్వము ఏమిచర్య తీసుకొంటుంది? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Sir, complaints have been received only in a few cases."

Report on the reorganization of the Secretariat.

* 119 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER :—" As the hon. Member, Sri V. Chidanandam is not in his seat. the question and answer will be printed in the proceedings."

SRI V. CHIDANANDAM : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to place on the table of the House a copy of the report of Sri Venkateswaran, I.C.S., Special Officer for Secretariat Reorganization and state the action taken on it by the Government?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" A departmental report of this kind is not to be placed on the table of the House. When action is taken, suitable publicity will be given to the reorganization ordered."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Provision of libraries in schools attached to slums.

5 Q.—SRI A. RATHINAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have provided libraries in the schools attached to slums as per the recommendations of the Harijan Welfare Committee, Madras; and

(*b*) if so, how many books were provided in each school and the amount so far spent?

A.—(*a*) The Government did not accept the recommendation of the Provincial Harijan Welfare Committee in this regard.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Ameliorative measures for the uplift of Scheduled Castes.

6 *Q.*—SRI A. RATHINAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) what action, other than in the field of Education, Government are taking for the uplift of Harijans ; and

(*b*) the amount of expenditure incurred by the Government on various heads other than Education with details for the past six years?

A.—(*a*) The ameliorative measures undertaken by the Government for the uplift of Scheduled Castes (Harijans), other than those on Education consist mainly of the following items :—

(i) Provision of house-sites;

(ii) Provision of wells and tanks for the supply of drinking water;

(iii) Provision of sanitary amenities, pathways and burning or burial grounds;

(iv) Grants to private bodies engaged in social and economic uplift of the eligible communities; and

(v) assignment or lease of land for cultivation.

(*b*) The expenditure incurred by the Government on the various heads mentioned above is furnished in the statement enclosed[a]. No expenditure was incurred on item (v).

Contributions to ryots under the Land Improvement Scheme.

7 *Q.*—SRI B. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to place on the table of the House a list of ryots who were granted contributions under the Land Improvement Scheme and the actual amounts that were sanctioned to each ryot?

A.—The information is not readily available. The collection of such particulars for a series of years will involve a good deal of time and labour not commensurate with the purpose served.

[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 864 infra.

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Relief afforded to the victims of flood in Cuddapah district in 1952.

8 *Q.*—SRI N. SIVARAMI REDDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the villages affected by the floods in the Kundu and Pennar rivers in Cuddapah district in 1952;

(*b*) the extent of the fields corroded and silted and the number of wells and dwellings damaged;

(*c*) the total loss calculated in rupees; and

(*d*) the relief afforded to the victims?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) A statement[a] giving the information is appended.

Gruel centres in Cuddapah district.

9 *Q.*—SRI N. SIVARAMI REDDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of gruel centres which were functioning in each taluk of Cuddapah district, in September 1952; and

(*b*) the number of gruel centres now existing in each taluk of Cuddapah district?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The number of gruel centres functioning on 27th September 1952 and on 21st February 1953 in each taluk in Cuddapah district are as follows :—

Name of the taluk.	Number of centres functioning on	
	27th September 1952.	21st February 1953.
(1)	(2)	(3)
Cuddapah	14	4
Pulivendla	60	55
Rajampet	67	Nil.
Badvel	38	4
Proddatur	7	Nil.
Kamalapuram (sub taluk) ..	37	Nil.
Rayachoti	107	61
Jammalamadugu	62	24
Sidhout	28	11

Amounts sanctioned towards subsistence loans in Badvel and Sidhout taluks.

10 *Q.*—SRI V. CHIDANANDAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) what was the amount sanctioned for Badvel and Sidhout taluks in Cuddapah district towards subsistence loans last year;

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 864–866 infra.

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(*b*) whether the entire amount was distributed;

(*c*) how many applications were received by the Loans Tahsildars of both the taluks and how many applicants received the loans; and

(*d*) if all the applications were not granted, the reason for the same?

A.—(*a*) The amounts sanctioned towards subsistence loans last year (1951–52) for Badvel and Sidhout taluks were Rs. 50,000 and Rs. 30,000 respectively.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) & (*d*) The number of applications received in Badvel taluk was 5,233 and the number received in Sidhout was 1,886.

In Badvel taluk 534 applicants were granted loans during last year and 206 cases were rejected, because the enquiries into the applications could not be completed before 31st March 1952 and the entire allotment was spent within the short period of two months, that is, February and March 1952.

In Sidhout taluk, 520 applicants were granted loans during the year and 492 cases were rejected because the time at the disposal of the special staff was short and the entire allotment sanctioned for the year was spent.

Reorganization of district boards.

11 *Q.*—Sri K. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the Committee called the District Board Reorganization Committee was appointed; what is its personnel; and its terms of reference; and

(*b*) when the report of the Committee in (*a*) was received and the orders passed by the Government on the recommendations of the Committee and whether the Government would place a copy of the report on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) The Advisory Committee for Reorganization of District Boards was constituted by an order of Government, dated the 7th May 1951, consisting of the following persons :—

Chairman.—Sri K. Kuttikrishna Menon, formerly Advocate-General, Madras.

Members—

Sri V. K. Palaniswamy Gounder, President, District Board, Coimbatore.

Sri T. Pulla Reddi, President, District Board, Cuddapah.

Sri C. V. Nayudu, Advocate, Tiruvallur.

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Sri K. A. Mukundan, President, District Board, Malabar.

Sri Rajah D. Paul, retired Secretary to Government Education Department.

Sri M. Narasanna, President, District Board, East Godavari.

The terms of reference to the Committee were as follows :—

(1) Whether district boards in their present form may be abolished or whether they may be retained;

(2) if district boards are to be retained, what their structure and composition should be;

(3) if district boards are to be abolished, who is to attend to the functions of district boards in general or whether it is necessary to set up "Divisional Boards" or "Circle Boards";

(4) whether there may be direct elections to district boards as at present on the basis of the Assembly rolls in force or whether the district board may comprise of the members of the Legislature belonging to the district and representatives elected by panchayats in the district from among their members;

(5) whether the existing provision in the Madras District Boards Act, 1920, regarding total number of members requires any alteration, particularly if the board is to be constituted by the inclusion of the members of the Legislature and representatives elected by panchayats;

(6) whether any change is called for in regard to the division of district board areas into circles;

(7) what should be the powers and functions of district boards and their presidents in the new-set-up; whether the functions of any of the bodies functioning at the district levels, such as the District Food Advisory Committee; District Firka Development Committee; District Prohibition Committee, etc., may be entrusted to district boards;

(8) whether district boards may continue to maintain elementary schools as at present or whether any other agency may be entrusted with this work;

(9) the ways and means of improving finances of district boards. (The recommendation of the Committee will be considered in the light of the report of the Local Finance Enquiry Committee);

(10) to suggest generally such reforms as are considered necessary in the interests of efficiency of administration;

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(11) to indicate in outline the amendments required to the Madras District Boards Act, 1920, and to any other Act concerning the administration of district boards; and

(12) should the secretary of the district board function as the executive authority on the analogy of municipal commissioner of a municipality and executive officer of a panchayat and if so, what should be his status?

(b) The Committee has submitted its report to Government on the 31st January 1953. The Government are now considering the report and orders thereon will be issued in due course. As the report is treated as confidential at present it is not possible to place it before the House now.

Formation of the Andhra State.

12 *Q.*—SRI G. YELLAMANDA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any instructions from the Central Government regarding the formation of the Andhra State; and

(*b*) if so, what they are?

A.—(*a*) No, Sir, not yet.

(*b*) Does not arise.

SRI P. VENKATASUBBIAH :—" On a point of information, Sir."

MR. SPEAKER—" If the hon. Member wants any information, he can come to my Chamber."

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR.

MR. SPEAKER :—" I have to announce to the House that I have received the following Message from the Governor of Madras :—

' In pursuance of Article 207, clause (1) read with Article 191 (1) (*a*) and (*b*) of the Constitution of India, I, Sri Prakasa, Governor of Madras, hereby give my recommendation to the introduction in the Madras Legislative Assembly of the Madras Entertainments Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1953, and in pursuance of clause (3) of Article 207, I also recommend to that Assembly the consideration of the said Bill.' "

Point of order.

SRI K. KRISHNA RAO :—" On a point of order, Sir. According to the rules in force, privilege motions have priority for discussion. I have given notice of a privilege motion in regard to questions and it has not been included in the agenda for to-day."

MR. SPEAKER :—" When did the hon. Member give it? "